

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00207 091235Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-10 IO-10 /088 W
----- 129803

R 091142Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 767

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 207

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: ARMY DELAY IN CLEARING ROAD BLOCKS TO BORDER

AROUSES CRITICISM

1. SEVERAL ROADS BETWEEN TOWN OF NEWRY AND REPUBLIC BORDER INCLUDING MAIN NEWRY-DUNDALK HIGHWAY BLOCKED BY HI-JACKED TRUCKS FOR PAST TEN DAYS. MOST VEHICLES REPORTEDLY TAKEN IN REPUBLIC. ARMY HEADQUARTERS LISBURN HAS RELEASED STATEMENT EXPLAINING DELAY IN CLEARING ROADS WAS DUE NECESSARY CAUTION ABOUT POSSIBLE AMBUSHES AND BOOBY TRAP BOMBS. STATEMENT RECALLED DEATH ARMY BOMB DISPOSAL EXPERT BY BOOBY TRAP TWO WEEKS AGO AND POINTED OUT INCONVENIENCE CAUSED BY TERRORISTS NOT BY ARMY.

2. CRITICISM OF DELAY ORIGINATED AMONG NEWRY BUSINESS AND CIVIC GROUPS IS NOW MOUNTING IN VOLUME. CHAIRMAN NEWRY BOARD OF TRADE IN RADIO INTERVIEW DEC. 9 ACCUSED ARMY OF FOLLOWING DELIBERATE POLICY OF DELAY AND QUOTED UNNAMED ARMY OFFICER HAVING SAID ARMY SECURITY ROLE MADE EASIER BY CROSS-BORDER ROADS BEING CLOSED. BBC-4 NORTHERN IRELAND ASKED ARMY HEADQUARTERS REACTION THIS CHARGE AND RECEIVED "NO COMMENT" REPLY.

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SPICER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 09 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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